

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. through 26. (Cancelled)
27. (Currently amended) A method of detecting a predisposition for the development of hypertension in an individual, comprising detecting a presence of at least the following three angiotensin converting enzyme isoforms in an aliquot of fresh or concentrated biological fluids, cells or tissues obtained from the individual, wherein the three angiotensin converting enzyme isoforms are 65kDa, 90 kDa, and 190kDa, and wherein the 65kDa and 190kDa isoforms are present in a normotensive patient, and wherein the 65kDa, 90kDa, and 190kDa isoforms must be present to indicate the predisposition for the development of hypertension.
28. (Cancelled)
29. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the aliquot of fresh or concentrated biological fluids, cells or tissues is urine.
30. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein said detecting step comprises an immunoprecipitation method.
31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the immunoprecipitation method is Western blotting.

32. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein said detecting step comprises a mass detection methodology.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the mass detection methodology comprises mass spectroscopy.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the mass detection methodology is used in combination with a chromatographic separation.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the mass detection methodology comprises mass spectroscopy.

36. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the mass detection spectroscopy is high performance liquid chromatography in combination with mass spectrometry (HPLC-MS).

37. (Currently amended) A method of detecting a predisposition for the development of a kidney lesion in an individual, comprising:

detecting a presence of at least the following three angiotensin converting enzyme isoforms in an aliquot of fresh or concentrated biological fluids, cells or tissues obtained from the individual, wherein the three angiotensin converting enzyme isoforms are 65kDa, 90 kDa, and 190kDa ; and

quantifying the presence of the at least three antiotension converting enzyme isoforms, wherein the 65kDa, 90kDa, and 190kDa isoforms must be present to indicate the predisposition for the development of kidney lesions.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the aliquot of fresh or concentrated biological fluids, cells or tissues is urine.

40. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said detecting step comprises an immunoprecipitation method.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the immunoprecipitation method is Western blotting.

42. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said detecting step comprises a mass detection methodology.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the mass detection methodology comprises mass spectroscopy.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the mass detection methodology is used in combination with a chromatographic separation.

45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the mass detection methodology comprises mass spectroscopy.